

5 **OPTICAL MEDIUM ALIGNED INFORMATION SYSTEM AND METHOD**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Separate sets of optical medium identification information are embedded in separate aligned layers of the optical medium to allow an optical drive to initiate use 15 of the optical medium with information from both layers. For instance, a first set of identification information is embedded in the data layer of the optical medium and a second set of identification information is embedded on the protective surface layer of the optical medium. The first and second sets of information align so that a mixed signal is provided when the optical medium is initially inserted in the optical drive 20 with the optical drive reading the separate sets of information while the read head is at a single location.